



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10 HANFORD/INL PROJECT OFFICE
309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115
Richland, Washington 99352

June 20, 2005

Bryan Foley
Project Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
PO Box 550, A6-38
Richland, WA 99352

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EDMC

Subject: Request for Extension to Assess DOE Responses to Comments on 200-CW-5 FS/PP

Dear Mr. Foley:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requests a 30-day extension to assess U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) responses to EPA comments and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) supporting comments on the 200-CW-5/2/4/SC-1 Operable Unit Group Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan. The EPA received the responses May 24, 2005, thus the extension starts June 23, 2005.

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The EPA is fully engaged in exploring the Z-Ditches (a set of 200-CW-5 waste sites) example in evaluating the need to improve characterization and analysis to support waste site cleanup decisions. The Executive Committee (a group of Tri-Party Agency managers) has tasked a team of project staff to compile difficult issues and examples of cleanup challenges for their consideration and decision-making; including a reevaluation of the characterization approach for complex 200 Area waste sites. This reevaluation may affect the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study schedule for several 200-CW-5-group sites as well as the schedule for other operable units. EPA will work with DOE and Ecology to limit the impact of

this reevaluation while ensuring that it is comprehensive and leads to well-designed characterization efforts that provide for sophisticated analysis of tradeoffs enabling cleanup decision-making.

Please contact me at (509) 376-8665 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig Cameron".

Craig Cameron
Project Manager

cc: John Price, Ecology
Mike Hickey, FH
Administrative Record: 200-CW-5 OU